## REMARKS

The foregoing claim amendments were made to correct formalities such as grammatical errors and to place the present Application in better form for examination. The foregoing amendments do not narrow the scope of the originally presented claims. Additionally, new claims 19-22 are added by the foregoing amendments.

In the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that the present application contains claims directed to nine (9) patentably distinct species. In reply to the Examiner's requirement that Applicants elect a single species for prosecution on the merits in this case, Applicants hereby elect Species V related to Figures 17-23 upon which claims 6-8, and new claims 19-22 read.
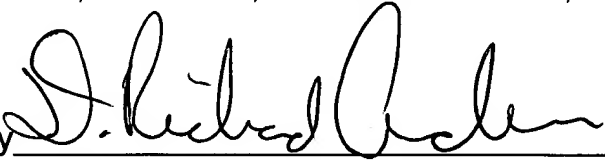
Favorable consideration, examination and allowance of the present patent application are respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Mark E. Olds (Reg. 46,507) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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(Rev. 09/26/01)

## VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 57, line 31 and continuing onto page 58, line 10 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. [21] 22 shows a recording pattern of the packet. It illustrates, in two-dimensional representation, the data of five sync blocks consecutive on the tape region in which transparent recording is made. In the drawing, reference numeral 141 denotes a data region of 77 bytes in one sync block, and the five rows respectively represent data of five sync blocks. Reference numerals 142 to 144 denote data of the first packet read from the buffer 108. Reference numerals 145 to 147 denote data of the second packet read from the buffer 108. Reference numerals 148 to 152 denote first headers, each one byte long, appended at the header appending circuit 111. Reference numerals 153 and 154 denote second headers, each two bytes long, appended at the header appending circuit 111.

IN THE CLAIMS:

*Please amend claim 6 as follows:*

6.     (Amended)  A digital VTR for magnetically recording and replaying digitally transmitted bit stream in a predetermined recording format, comprising:

division number setting means, responsive to a bit stream input, for setting the division number N into sync blocks that form the recording format, wherein N is an integer;

a predetermined number M [(M being a positive integer)] of transport packets as a unit, [for setting the division number N (N being a positive integer, N≠M) into sync

blocks which are to form the recording format] <u>wherein M is an integer and N is not equal to M</u>;

header appending means for appending, to data of the bit stream before the division, a header indicating the transport packet; and

format forming means for forming N consecutive sync blocks from the data after the division of the bit stream.


7.　　(Amended)  A digital VTR for magnetically recording and replaying a digitally transmitted bit stream in a predetermined recording format, comprising:

decoding means for decoding the content of data of an input bit stream;

data extracting means for extracting a series of encoded data used for fast replay, <u>based</u> on [the basis of] the decoded data; and

data reducing means for reducing the data amount of the extracted encoded data to a data amount which can be recorded in K sync blocks [(K being a positive integer)] in said predetermined format, <u>wherein K is a positive integer</u>.


New claims 19-22 have been added herein.